

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A turbine blade having opposing pressure and suction side walls adjoining at leading and trailing edges of the blade, and defining at least one internal channel providing a flow passage for a cooling medium, said at least one channel including a plurality of turbulence promoting ribs mounted on a channel wall surface, at least one of the ribs extending at an angle of between 62° and 79° from the surface of the at least one channel with respect to the direction of flow therethrough, wherein each rib comprises two rib portions joined at one end thereof to form a chevron junction, said chevron junction defining an angle of between 80° and 120° between the two rib portions and being directed into the flow of the cooling medium within the at least one channel, and wherein at least one gap is provided in one rib portion, and at least one gap is provided in the other rib portion.

Claim 2 (Original): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein one rib portion is disposed at an angle of 120° from the other rib portion.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one channel has a substantially triangular cross-section.

Claim 4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein adjacent ribs are aligned such that adjacent chevron junctions are longitudinally aligned with respect to the at least one channel.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein adjacent ribs are misaligned such that adjacent chevron junctions are longitudinally offset.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ribs are mounted on opposing sides of the at least one channel.

Claim 8 (Original): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 7, wherein each opposing rib is laterally aligned with respect to the at least one channel.

Claim 9 (Original): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 7, wherein each opposing rib is laterally offset with respect to the at least one channel.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gaps of each adjacent rib are longitudinally aligned with respect to the at least one channel.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gaps in each adjacent rib are longitudinally offset with respect to the at least one channel.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the centre of the at least one gap is located between 60% and 70% along the length of a respective rib portion from the chevron junction.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the centre of the at least one gap is located around two thirds along the length of a respective rib portion from the chevron junction.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the ribs extends substantially perpendicular from the surface of the at least one channel.

Claims 15-17 (Cancelled)

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ribs have a trapezoidal cross-section.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ribs have a cross-section in the form of a parallelogram.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ribs have a square cross-section.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein adjacent ribs are spaced apart by between 4 and 6 mm.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein adjacent ribs are spaced apart by between 4 and 5 mm.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein adjacent ribs are spaced apart by 4.4 mm.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ribs have a height of between 0.45 and 0.75 mm.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ribs have a height of between 0.5 and 0.6 mm.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ribs have a height of 0.52 mm.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ribs have a width of between 0.45 and 0.75 mm.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ribs have a width of 0.6 mm.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gaps in the ribs are between 0.45 and 0.75 mm wide.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gaps in the ribs are 0.54 mm wide.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one channel is located in the region of the leading edge of the blade.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one channel is defined by the pressure wall, the suction wall and a web portion extending between the pressure and suction walls.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ribs are located in at least one channel in the region of the leading edge of the blade, such that one rib portion is located on the pressure wall, and the other rib portion is located on the suction wall, and the chevron junction is aligned with the leading edge.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one channel is located in a mid-passage of the blade, between the leading and trailing edges of the blade.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the blade includes a plurality of internal channels.

Claim 36 (Original): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 35, wherein at least one of the plurality of channels is located in the region of the leading edge of the blade, and at least one channel is located in a mid-passage of the blade, between the leading and trailing edges.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one channel is of a single pass form.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one channel is of a serpentine form.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the turbine blade further includes a root portion and a tip portion, wherein the pressure and suction walls and the leading and trailing edges extend from the root portion to the tip portion of the blade.

Claim 40 (Original): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 39, wherein the cooling medium is supplied to the blade via the root portion.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 39, wherein the root portion is of a fir-tree type.

Claim 42 (Currently Amended): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 39, wherein the root portion is of a dove tail type.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the external surface of the turbine blade defines a plurality of apertures providing fluid communication between the at least one cooling channel and the exterior of the blade.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cooling medium is air.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cooling medium is compressed air fed from a compressor.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the turbine blade is a rotor blade of a gas turbine engine.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the blade is a first stage rotor blade of a gas turbine engine.

Claim 48 (Cancelled)

Claim 49 (Currently Amended): A gas turbine engine including a plurality of turbine blades, at least one turbine blade having opposing pressure and suction side walls adjoining at leading and trailing edges of the blade, and defining at least one internal channel providing a flow passage for a cooling medium, said at least one channel including a plurality of turbulence promoting ribs mounted on a channel wall surface, at least one of the ribs extending at an angle of between 62° and 79° from the surface of the at least one channel with respect to the direction of flow therethrough, wherein each rib comprises two rib portions joined at one end thereof to form a chevron junction, said chevron junction defining an angle of between 80° and 120° between the two rib portions and being directed into the flow of the cooling medium within the at least one channel, and wherein at least one gap is provided in one rib portion, and at least one gap is provided in the other rib portion.

Claim 50 (Currently Amended): Electrical generating means including a gas turbine engine, said gas turbine engine including a plurality of turbine blades, at least one turbine blade having opposing pressure and suction side walls adjoining at leading and trailing edges of the blade, and defining at least one internal channel providing a flow passage for a cooling medium, said at least one channel including a plurality of turbulence promoting ribs mounted on a channel wall surface, at least one of the ribs extending at an angle of between 62° and 79° from the surface of the at least one channel with respect to the direction of flow therethrough, wherein each rib

comprises two rib portions joined at one end thereof to form a chevron junction, said chevron junction defining an angle of between 80° and 120° between the two rib portions and being directed into the flow of the cooling medium within the at least one channel, and wherein at least one gap is provided in one rib portion, and at least one gap is provided in the other rib portion.

Claim 51 (Original): A turbine blade having opposing pressure and suction side walls adjoining at leading and trailing edges of the blade, and defining at least one internal channel providing a flow passage for a cooling medium, said at least one channel including a plurality of turbulence promoting ribs mounted on a channel wall surface, wherein at least one rib has a trapezoidal cross-sectional shape and extends from the channel wall surface at an angle greater than 60° and less than 90° , such that said at least one rib is directed into the direction of flow of the cooling medium within the at least one channel.

Claim 52 (Original): A turbine blade as defined in claim 51, wherein the at least one rib extends from the channel wall surface at an angle of between 62° and 79° .

Claim 53 (Previously Presented): A turbine blade as defined in claim 51, wherein the cross-sectional shape of the at least one rib is defined by a base and a tip joined by two flanks aligned parallel to each other.

Claim 54 (Original): A turbine blade having opposing pressure and suction side walls adjoining at leading and trailing edges of the blade, and defining at least one internal channel providing a flow passage for a cooling medium, said at least one channel including a plurality of turbulence promoting ribs mounted on a channel wall surface, wherein at least one rib has a cross-sectional shape in the form of a parallelogram and extends from the channel wall surface at an angle greater than 60° and less than 90° , such that said at least one rib is directed into the direction of flow of the cooling medium within the at least one channel.

Claim 55 (Original): A turbine blade as defined in claim 54, wherein the at least one rib extends from the channel wall surface at an angle of between 62° and 79° .